

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-13 INT-05
AF-08 EUR-12 SAJ-01 CU-02 EB-07 OES-06 AGRE-00 /103 W
-----170828Z 062913 /17

R 170545Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2022
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY SUVA
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
USIA WASHDC
CINCPAC HONOLULU

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT MORESBY 0079

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
STAGS: PFOR GQ PP
SUBJ: STIMULATING CONTACTS BETWEEN PNG AND GUAM

REF: 76 STATE 309506; 76 PORT MORESBY 1354

1. PAPUA NEW GUINEA VOTED WITH THE COMMUNISTS AND RADICAL
AFRICAN COUNTRIES IN UN TO SUPPORT RESOLUTION ON GUAM IN
VOTE TAKEN NOV 1976 IN SPITE OF REPRESENTATION MADE BY
USUN, THE DEPT AND EMBASSY PORT MORESBY. DURING DISCUSSIONS
BETWEEN EMBOFFS AND DFAT PERSONNEL IT BECAME EVIDENT THAT
PNG OFFICIALS HAD VERY LITTLE KNOWLEDGE OF GUAM AND ITS
RELATIONSHIP TO THE US, AND SOME OF THEIR BELIEFS WERE
DEMONSTRABLY WRONG. IGNORANCE EXISTS DESPITE FACT GUAM
AND PNG ARE--BY PACIFIC OCEAN STANDARDS--CLOSE NEIGHBORS.
IT EXISTS BECAUSE OF ALMOST TOTAL LACK OF PUBLISHED BASIC
INFORMATION HERE ABOUT GUAM, VERY LITTLE CURRENT
INFORMATION, AND FEW CONTACTS.

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2. IF WE WANT TO AVOID ANOTHER ADVERSE PNG VOTE ON
GUAM RESOLUTION NEXT YEAR BELIEVE WE SHOULD INITIATE PROGRAM
NOW TO STIMULATE CONTACTS BETWEEN THESE PACIFIC NEIGHBORS
AND INCREASE KNOWLEDGE ABOUT EACH OTHER. CERTAIN
STEPS CAN--AND WILL--BE UNDERTAKEN BY THIS POST:

A) ROUTING IV'S THROUGH GUAM WHEN RETURNING TO PNG;

2) PROVIDING INFORMATION ABOUT GUAM TO MEDIA;

3) ARRANGING FOR CERTAIN VISITORS FROM GUAM (IF WE ARE INFORMED ABOUT THEM) TO CALL ON APPROPRIATE GPNG OFFICIALS

4) ENCOURAGE THE UPNG TO INVITE GUAMANIAN SPEAKERS OR PARTICIPANTS IN SEMINARS TO PORT MORESBY; AND

5) UTILIZING A SPECIAL VIDEO TAPE OF GUAM REP IN CONGRESS WHICH WE HAVE REQUESTED.

3. OTHER STEPS, WHICH WOULD HAVE TO BE TAKEN IN GUAM, WOULD PROBABLY BE MORE EFFECTIVE. WE SUGGEST: 1) THAT SOME SENIOR GPNG OFFICIAL (POSSIBLY FOREIGN SECRETARY ANTHONY SIAGURU) BE INVITED TO GIVE A LECTURE ON PNG'S FOREIGN POLICY UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF GUAM OR SOME FOREIGN AFFAIRS ORGANIZATION; 2) THAT AN HONORARY DEGREE BE CONFERRED ON PRIME MINISTER SOMARE OR FOREIGN MINISTER KIKI BY THE UNIVERSITY OF GUAM; 3) THAT THE COMMANDER OF THE PNG DEFENSE FORCE, GEN E.R. DIRO, BE INVITED TO TOUR THE DEFENSE FACILITIES IN GUAM; 4) THAT, AS APPROPRIATE, DELEGATIONS OF GPNG OFFICIALS BE INVITED TO GUAM TO VISIT FISHERING PROJECTS, AGRICULTURAL PROJECTS, ETC; 5) THET WHEN SEMINARS ARE HELD IN GUAM ON SUCH SUBJECTS ADS NUTRITION, URBAN DRIFT, LAW AND ORDER, POLLUTION, VOCATIONAL EDUCATION, ETC., PARTICIPANTS BE INVITED FROM PNG; AND 6) THAT A GUAOANIAN TRADE DELEGATION COME TO PNG TO LOOK INTO POSSIBILITY OF BUYING LUMBER, TEA, COFFEE, HANDICRAFTS
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PRAWNS, ETC.

4. A MAJOR DRAWBACK TO THE ARRANGEMENT OF SUCH VISITS IS THE LIMITED AIR TRANSPORT FACILITIES BETWEEN PORT MORESBY AND GUAM. MOST FEASIBLE ROUTE IS VIA MANILA, BUT THERE IN ONLY ONE FLIGHT PER WEEK BETWEEN MANILA AND PORT MORESBY. IN SOME CASES IT MIGHT BE DESIRABLE TO ARRANGE PNG VISIT TO GUAM AS LAST LEG OF VISIT TO NORTH ASIA. IN CASE OF MOST SENIOR PNG VISITORS, WE WONDER IF US MILITARY TRANSPORT BACK TO PORT MORESBY COULD BE ARRANGED?

5. OVER A PERIOD OF TIME WE BELIEVE A SEIMILAR PROGRAM SHOULD BE IN TITATED WITH REGARD TO TTPI AND AMERICAN SAMOA. US POSITION IN PACIFIC IS LIKELY TO BE SUBJECT OF INCREASING CRITICISM BY PACIFIC ISLAND COUNTRIES UNLESS WE TAKE POITPE ACTION TO INCREASE UNDERSTANDING OF THE PROBLEMS.
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